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Signature SUES- POLIMATURO	Wei-Kuo Lee :				
	Art Unit	i	Examiner		
Typed or printed Jere L. Polmatier	2831		Chau N.	Nguyen	
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Applicant requests review of the final rejection in the above-identified application. No amendments are being filed					
with this request.					
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The review is requested for the reason(s) stated on the attached sheet(s). Note: No more than five (5) pages may be provided.					
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applicant/inventor.	11	for T. W	2m		
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assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71, Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed,					
(Form PTO/SB/98)	Typed or printed name				
attorney or agent of record.	414-273-2100 Telephone number				
Registration number 45188					
attomey or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34.	March 13, 2006				
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NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below*.					
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MAR 1 3 2006

Patent

Attorney Docket No. DOW-31481-A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Wei-Kuo Lee, et al.

Serial No.

10/813,367

Filing Date

March 30, 2004

For

CABLE SEMICONDUCTING SHIELD

Group Art Unit

2831

Examiner

Nguyen, Chau N.

Attorney Docket No.:

DOW-31481-A

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a) and 1.10

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PRE-APPEAL BRIEF REQUEST FOR REVIEW

Dear Sir:

COMMENTS

These comments accompany the Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review filed concurrently with the Notice of Appeal for this case. The Applicants believe that this case is appropriate for the pilot Pre-Appeal Brief Request because at least some of the arguments against the rejection are based on incomplete disclosure in the prior art and/or legally improper reasoning in the Examiner's proposed prima facie case.

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In the Response to the previous Office Action that was mailed May 2, 2005, the Applicants argued that the claims were not obvious due to unexpected results achieved by the claimed composition. In the Response to the Arguments in the Final Rejection, the Examiner stated that "the fact that Applicant has recognized another advantage which would flow naturally from following the suggestion of the prior art cannot be the basis for patentability when the differences would otherwise be obvious" See Ex Parte Obiaya, 227 USPQ 58, 60 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1985). The Applicants believe that the case cited by the Examiner does not support the Examiners conclusion. In particular, the Board's holding in Obiaya rests on two precedent cases, In Re Best, 195 USPQ 430 (CCPA 1977) and In Re Wilder, 166 USPQ 545 (CCPA 1970).

In Re Best, deals with a 102/103 rejection in view of newly discovered functions or properties inherently possessed by things in the prior art. See page 433. However, the Examiner is not arguing that the composition of the current claims is a thing in the prior art, merely that such a composition may be suggested by the prior art. Therefore, this rationale for the holding in Obiava is not applicable to the current case. Moreover, the inherency rejection dealt with in In Re Best was to claims for a process, not to compositions as currently claimed.

The other precedent case, In Re Wilder, is more on point. Wilder deals with claims to a composition of matter. However, as stated in footnote 3 of the Wilder opinion,

"It will be apparent that we are treating the instant claims, concededly drawn to compositions, as if the only important element is the anti-oxidant adjuvant and the rubber merely acts as a matrix or environment wherein the important properties of the adjuvant compound are manifested. In this respect the claims may be said to be similar to those drawn to a pharmaceutical or insecticidal compositions similarly containing only a single "active" ingredient. It should be apparent that this approach cannot be utilized with all claims drawn to compositions." (emphasis added)

Since the current claims are to a composition that cannot be categorized as containing only a single "active" ingredient, the rationale of *In Re Wilder*, and by extension, *Obiaya*, does not hold to the current claims.

In view of the above arguments, the Applicants request that the Panel consider the following question. An axiom of patent law is that an obviousness rejection can be rebutted by a showing of unexpected results. However, under the Examiner's position, all properties of a new

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composition (that is rejected for obviousness) are inherent in that composition and any properties, even if unexpected, would be merely a newly discovered advantage flowing naturally from the suggestions in the prior art. Consequently, if the Examiner's argument holds, how could unexpected results ever be used to rebut an obviousness rejection?

Therefore, the Applicants believe that the prior remarks and arguments that have been presented provide evidence of unexpected results that rebut the Examiner's prima facie case and are not dismissible under the doctrine of Wilder/Best/Obiaya. As such, the Applicants maintain their previous arguments, which are summarized below.

The Applicants believe that the present invention exhibits surprising results in view of the prior art. In particular, the prior art would not lead one skilled in the art to expect the synergistic effects on melt viscosity and volume resistance achieved by using a blend of carbon nanotubes and carbon black. Also, the Applicants believe that the current invention demonstrates an unexpected long term stability in volume resitivity.

Table 1 on page 18 of the specification reports the viscosity for various compositions, and the viscosity of the Example 1 composition (all carbon black) is significantly higher at various shear rates than the viscosity of the Example 4 composition (mixture of carbon black and carbon nanotubes). The lower viscosity of Example 4 is important to a more facile in the processing of the composition into a semiconductor shield layer. This lower viscosity is even more striking when compared against the composition of Example 2 which contains 20 weight percent carbon nanotubes and 0 weight percent carbon black. The viscosity of the composition of Example 2 is even greater across the various shear rates than that of the composition of Example 1.

In addition, at page 20, Table 2 of the specification, the volume resistivities of the compositions of Examples 1-4 are reported. The Examiner will note that not only is the volume resistivity of the composition of Example 4 comparable to that of the composition of Example 1, but it is much more stable over various thermal cycles than the volume resistivity of the Example 1 composition.

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The Applicants believe that the claims are patentable for the reasons stated above. The Applicants therefore request that the Panel reconsider and withdraw the rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan E. Wagner

Registration No. 45,188

P.O. Address

Whyte Hirschboeck Dudek S.C. 555 East Wells Street, Suite 1900 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Phone: (414) 273-2100 Customer No.: 29423

Dated: March 13, 2006